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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/064,095	06/11/2002	Chih-Wei Hung	9068-US-PA	7113
31561	7590	10/11/2005	EXAMINER	
JIANQ CHYUN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE			MUNSON, GENE M	
7 FLOOR-1, NO. 100			ART UNIT	
ROOSEVELT ROAD, SECTION 2			PAPER NUMBER	
TAIPEI, 100			2811	
TAIWAN			DATE MAILED: 10/11/2005	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

Office Action Summary	Application No. <u>10/064,095</u>	Applicant(s) <u>C. HUNG</u>	
	Examiner <u>G. MUNSON</u>	Art Unit <u>2811</u>	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 3 August 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application. 1-7, 16
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-7, 16 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) 1-7, 16 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 1-7, 16 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) 1-7, 16 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-7 and 16 are rejected under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable the evidence being He et al, Chen et al '263 and Rhodes '915, all considered together. For an image device pixel as in Chen et al (Figure 1C), with the photodiode and reset transistor as in He et al (Figure 2), it would have been obvious to use an "interconnect" 320 as in Rhodes, "extending to an upper portion of the isolation structure" 132, 332 as in Rhodes, in order to connect the n-type "source" region 201 of the reset transistor as in He et al to the gate of a source follower as in Rhodes and Chen et al. The "photodiode sensing" region reads on a photodiode region 103 as in He et al. The "isolation structure" reads on a field oxide FOX as in He et al and field oxide 132, 332 as in Rhodes, which would have been obvious to use for isolation. A field oxide FOX as in He et al is "over the photosensing region" 103, as claimed.

Note that in Rhodes, region 315 corresponds to region 30 in Figure 1, which is a source region of reset transistor 31. Reset transistor 104 of present invention (Figure 1) corresponds to reset transistor 31 of Rhodes (Figure 1), reset transistor 101a of Chen et al (Figure 1C), and the reset transistor of He et al (Figure 2).

The conclusion is that the claimed invention as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made. The hypothetical person of ordinary skill in the relevant art, familiar with all that the references disclose, "would have found it obvious to make a structure corresponding to *what is claimed.*" *In re Sovish*, 226 USPQ 771, 774 (Fed. Cir. 1985).

The arguments in the response, filed 3 August 2005, have been considered but are not persuasive. Contrary to the response (page 6), in Figures 2, 3F of this application, "local interconnect" line 212 does *not* cover the portion of "isolation structure" 302 that is "over the photosensing region" 306, nor does claim 1 require such. Rhodes (Figure 11) shows a "first end" at 315, an "isolation structure" and a "second end." Present application shows no such section.

No claim is allowed.

This action is **FINAL**.

This action is a **final** rejection and is intended to close the prosecution of this application. Applicant's reply under 37 CFR 1.113 to this action is limited either to an appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences or to an amendment complying with the requirements set forth below.

If applicant should desire to appeal any rejection made by the examiner, a Notice of Appeal must be filed within the period for reply identifying the rejected claim or claims appealed. The Notice of Appeal must be accompanied by the required appeal fee of appropriate amount.

If applicant should desire to file an amendment, entry of a proposed amendment after final rejection cannot be made as a matter of right unless it merely cancels claims or complies with a formal requirement made earlier. Amendments touching the merits of the application

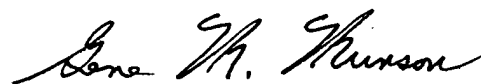
which otherwise might not be proper may be admitted upon a showing a good and sufficient reasons why they are necessary and why they were not presented earlier.

A reply under 37 CFR 1.113 to a final rejection must include the appeal from, or cancellation of, each rejected claim. The filing, whichever is longer, of an amendment after final rejection, whether or not it is entered, does not stop the running of the statutory period for reply to the final rejection unless the examiner holds the claims to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, if a Notice of Appeal has not been filed properly within the period for reply, or any extension of this period obtained under either 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b), the application will become abandoned.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a). A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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10/04/05



GENE M. MUNSON
EXAMINER
GROUP ART UNIT 2811